



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
Angeles District  
1925 Las Virgenes Road  
Calabasas, CA 91302-1909

**PROJECT TITLE:** USDA Los Angeles County Soil Survey

**LOCATION:** Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook

**COUNTY:** Los Angeles

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:**

The US Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) is producing a regional Soil Survey in southeastern Los Angeles County covering a 681,000 acre area throughout the Los Angeles Basin and Eastern San Fernando Valley. NRCS is requesting permission to access and sample soil at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook as part of this survey. The soil map produced as a result of this survey will identify location of soil types and important soil properties. The survey would include soil sampled from 6 locations at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook. Field work will include digging small soil pits using hand tools only. Soil pits are typically 12 x 18 inches at the surface and is excavated to a practical depth using a shovel. No digging will occur within the root zone of trees or shrubs and no native grasses will be disturbed. If sod is present, it is removed and set aside to be replaced. The subsurface material is then removed using a 3 inch diameter hand turned bucket auger to a depth of 6 feet. Spoil is placed on a blue tarp to maintain a clean worksite. A soil profile description is completed based on NRCS observations. The pit is then backfilled and the surface sod is replaced leaving little or no trace of excavation activities. There are no known subsurface archaeological features or cultural resources at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:** California Department of Parks and Recreation

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Angeles

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

- ☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))  
☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))  
☐ Statutory Exemption (Section )  
☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 6 Section(s): 15306

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** No potential for significant impact to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the project description including comments provided by CDPR specialists, then it is exempt under CEQA §15306 – Information Collection. The action falls under the Departmental List of Exempt activities according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- "Resource studies, inventories....with sampling or collection..." (Class 6, Section 15306)

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California Department of Parks & Recreation

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Craig Sap  
District Superintendent, Angeles District

Date

3/16/15